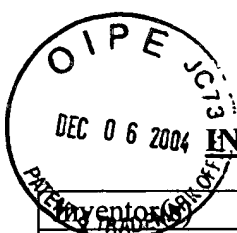


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Serial No.: 10/821,040  
 Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0818



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s)	:	Christoph Ender et al.
Serial No.	:	10/821,040
Filing Date	:	April 7, 2004
Title	:	COMBINED LIQUID COLLECTOR AND MIXER FOR MASS TRANSFER COLUMN AND METHOD EMPLOYING SAME
Group/Art Unit	:	1724
Examiner	:	Not Yet Assigned
Confirmation No.	:	9247
Atty. Docket No.	:	506417-0818

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing with respect to the above-identified patent application are:

- 1) an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b), Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) and cited foreign patent references; and
- 2) an Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b) for U.S. Patent Application Publications and U.S. Unpublished Applications.

These information disclosure statements are being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) or before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

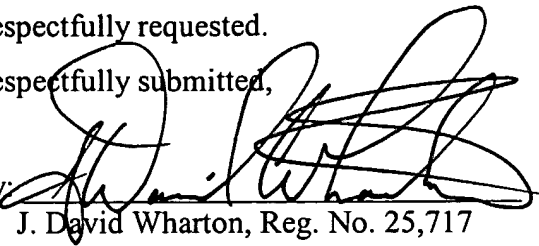
Date: 12-2-04  
 Signature: Michele Collis  
 Printed Name: Michele Collis

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. David Wharton", is written over a horizontal line.

J. David Wharton, Reg. No. 25,717  
STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP  
1201 Walnut Ste 2900  
Kansas City MO 64106-2150  
Telephone: (816) 842-8600  
Facsimile: (816) 691-3495



Serial No.: 10/821,040  
Attorney Docket No.: 506417-0818

**THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97(b), the references listed below and on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A (Substitute for Form 1449A-B/PTO) are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed, with the exception of any issued U.S. Patents. Submission of these references is not an admission that the references constitute prior art.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: 12-2-04

Signature: Michael G. G. G.

Printed Name: Michael G. G. G.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.

**U.S. PATENTS**

<b>Patent No.</b>	<b>Inventor(s)</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>
5,318,732	Monkelbaan et al.	06/07/1994

**FOREIGN PATENTS**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Patent No./Publication No.</b>	<b>Publication Date</b>
Europe	0626185	11/30/1994
WO	96/28232	09/19/1996

**OTHER REFERENCES**

None.

Applicants respectfully request that these references be made of record in the above-identified application and considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the application.

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over the listed references.

This information disclosure statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

Acknowledgment of receipt is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

J. David Wharton, Reg. No. 25,717  
STINSON MORRISON HECKER LLP  
1201 Walnut Ste 2800  
Kansas City MO 64106-2150  
Telephone: (816) 842-8600  
Facsimile: (816) 691-3495

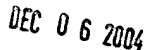


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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

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**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**  
*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

#### OTHER REFERENCES – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

Examiner  
Signature

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



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FOR MASS TRANSFER COLUMN AND METHOD  
EMPLOYING SAME

Group/Art Unit : 1724  
Examiner : Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No. : 9247

Atty. Docket No. : 506417-0818

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)  
FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS AND  
U.S. UNPUBLISHED APPLICATIONS**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

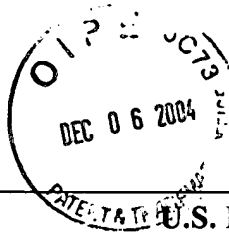
Pursuant to MPEP 609(D), Applicants respectfully request that the pending U.S. patent application listed below be considered in the examination of the above-identified application on other than a Form PTO-1449 format to avoid the application serial number of the pending application being published on any future patents. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed. Submission of these references is not an admission that the references constitute prior art.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: 12-2-04  
Signature: Michelle Sills  
Printed Name: Michelle Sills

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-4409.



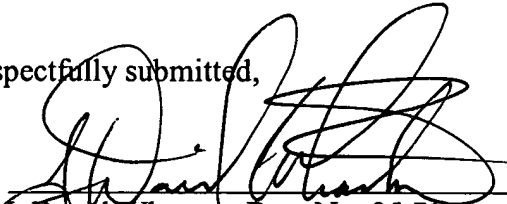
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS			
Examiner's Initials	Applicant	Patent Application Publication No.	Publication Date
	Bachmann et al.	2001/0038155	11/08/2001
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

U.S. APPLICATIONS			
Examiner's Initials	Applicant	Application No.	Filing Date
	None		
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention as claimed is patentable over the listed references.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
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